

**STANDARDS PRESENTATION  
TO  
CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

Attachment No. 1

Page 1 of 3

PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 4

Amend Section 3207 to read:

§3207. Definitions.

(a) The following terms are defined for general use in these regulations; specialized definitions appear in individual articles. (See Definitions in the Index)

Access. A means of reaching a work space of a work area.

Accessible. Within reach from a work space or work area.

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Mezzanine or Mezzanine Floor. An intermediate floor placed in any story or room. When the total area of any such "Mezzanine Floor" exceeds 33 1/3 percent of the total floor area in that room, it shall be considered as constituting an additional "Story." The clear height above or below a "Mezzanine Floor" construction shall be not less than 7 feet.

Microtome. A device that cuts extremely thin slices of material for microscopic study. Microtomes include hand-powered (manual), semi-automatic and automatic units. This equipment also may be called a "histotome" or "cryostat".

Mill. A machine consisting of two adjacent metal rolls, set horizontally, which revolve in opposite directions (i.e., toward each other as viewed from above) used for the mechanical working of rubber and plastics compounds.

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.

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Attachment No. 1

Page 2 of 3

PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 4

Adopt Section 3558 to read:

§ 3558. ~~Portable Power Driven Circular Saws (Class A).~~~~[Repealed]~~Microtomes (manual, semi-automatic and automatic).

- (a) Microtomes shall be used, operated, and maintained by qualified persons in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and this section. The provisions of this section take precedence over manufacturer's recommendations wherever those recommendations are inconsistent with this section.
- (b) During operation, a minimum clearance of 1 inch shall be maintained between the operator's hands and any moving parts or blade (point of operation) of the microtome, and the operator's hands shall only approach the blade with forceps and/or other appropriate tools.
- (c) Tissue sections or sections of any other material sliced by the microtome shall be retrieved by the employee using forceps and/or other appropriate tool(s).
- (d) When operating microtomes, the foot pedal shall be so positioned to avoid accidental activation.
- (e) The adjustment, removal, replacement or maintenance activities of microtomes shall comply with the requirements of Section 3314 of these Orders.
- (f) When not in use, the foot treadle of each electrically-powered microtome must be guarded by a cover or guard that will prevent unintended operation.
- (g) At a minimum, microtome operators shall be trained in the requirements of this section consistent with Section 3203, Injury and Illness Prevention Program, of these Orders.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.

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Attachment No. 1

Page 3 of 3

PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 4

Amend Section 4184 to read:

§4184. Guarding Required.

(a) Machines as specifically covered hereafter in Group 8, having a grinding, shearing, punching, pressing, squeezing, drawing, cutting, rolling, mixing or similar action, in which an employee comes within the danger zone shall be guarded at the point of operation in one or a combination of the ways specified in the following orders, or by other means or methods which will provide equivalent protection for the employee.

(b) All machines or parts of machines, used in any industry or type of work not specifically covered in Group 8, which present similar hazards as the machines covered under these point of operation orders, shall be guarded at their point of operation as required by the regulations contained in Group 8.

EXCEPTION: Microtomes (also called histotomes or cryostats) when guarding as required in Section 4184 is infeasible and the microtome is used, operated and maintained in accordance with Section 3558 of these Orders. For the purposes of this Exception guarding as required in Section 4184 is infeasible under circumstances that include, but are not limited to the following: there is no point-of-operation guard commercially available for an employer's microtome.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.